



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HARNESS RACING COMMISSION
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Minutes of the

Delaware Harness Racing Commission Meeting

PUBLIC SESSION

August 29, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Delaware Department of Agriculture - Conference Room

Commission Members Present

Beverly Steele	Chairman
Patt Wagner	Vice Chairman
George Staats	Commissioner
Stephanie Liguori	Commissioner
Jack Berberian	Commissioner

Others Present

DHRC Executive Director Mark Davis, Dover Downs Vice President of Racing Charles Lockhart, Sr., Dover Downs Sr. Director of Racing John Hensley, Harrington Raceway General Manager Jim Boese, Harrington Raceway Asst. GM Matt Sparacino and Harrington Facilities Manager Karen Craft.

Minutes: Donna Krol

CALL TO ORDER:

At 10:05 a.m. Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

Immediately following the "Call to Order," the DHRC Commission dismissed to Executive Session. The Commission returned to Public Session after the Executive Session was complete.

Executive Session:

See Executive Session minutes.

Return to Public Session:

At 10:35 a.m. Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Public minutes from the June 12, 2018 Commission Meeting were reviewed. Chairman Steele entertained a motion to approve the public minutes. Motion was made by Commissioner Liguori and seconded by Commissioner Berberian. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session
August 29, 2018**

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED DHRC RULE AMENDMENTS BASED ON NEW USTA RULES:

Proposed DHRC Rule Amendments based on Rules Committee review of the new USTA Rules on June 26, 2018.

Definitions

“Length” is the distance defined as extending from a horse's nose to the posterior of the hindquarters. A length shall not include the space occupied by the driver or sulky beyond the horse's hindquarters.

Rule Amendments to include Micro Chipping

3.5 Horse Identifier / Equipment Checker

3.5.1 General Authority. The Horse Identifier / Equipment Checker shall be present for each race. The duties of the Horse Identifier / Equipment Checker are:

3.5.1.1 Maintain a listing of all equipment worn, including shoes, and the tattoo or freeze brand, or Micro Chip number for each horse racing at the meeting;

3.5.1.2 Each time a horse races, identify the horse by checking the lip tattoo or freeze brand, or Micro Chip; ~~and~~

3.5.1.3 Compare the type and condition of equipment actually being used by each horse for each race with the approved equipment listed;

3.5.1.4 Maintain and ensure the proper working condition of Micro Chip readers; and

3.5.2 Report Violations. The Horse Identifier / Equipment Checker shall report to the Paddock Judge immediately any discrepancies or faulty equipment discovered by the investigations specified in this Rule, which findings are to be reported immediately to the Presiding Judge. Such discrepancies shall be forwarded to the USTA. The Presiding Judge's ruling in these matters is final.

7.1.7.1 Once a horse is entered, it is the responsibility of the trainer to immediately notify the Board of Judges if that horse becomes unfit to race. A written notification must accompany the scratch request identifying: Horse name, tattoo (or Micro Chip Number), trainer name, date of event, reason for scratch (sick, lame, injured or deceased) and must be signed and dated by the trainer of record.

7.4.1.12 the horse has been lip tattooed or freeze-branded or Miro Chipped in accordance with the constitution and bylaws and regulations of the United States Trotting Association or Canadian Standardbred Horse Society.

Physical Examination

7.6.13.14 In the event a driver is involved in an incident on or off the track that requires medical attention, the driver must provide medical clearance from a medical professional or an on-track emergency medical technician (EMT) stating that he/she can resume his/her duties.

Discussion on 7.6.13.14 was heard. Mark Davis will revise to read licensed medical professional.

**Delaware Harness Racing Commission – Public Session
August 29, 2018**

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED DHRC RULE AMENDMENTS BASED ON NEW USTA RULES: Continued

Chairman Steele entertained a motion to approve the proposed rules with the change discussed. Motion was made by Commissioner Berberian and seconded by Commissioner Liguori. Motion passed with unanimous voice vote.

- Rule changes will be posted in the Register of Regulations for October 1st for a 30 day for comment period
- Commission will consider public comments and conduct a vote at the November Commission Meeting
- Final posting in the December Register of Regulations; changes will be effective on December 11, 2018.

Reports: Executive Director, Racing Officials, Veterinarian:

Administrator's Report for July and August were previously sent to the Commission for review. Reports will not be reviewed in Public Session this month.

Mark Davis announced that the letters for racing dates and simulcast application have been received by the DHRC. This will be addressed at the September Commission Meeting.

Reschedule RULES Committee Meeting:

Rules Meeting has been tentatively rescheduled to 9-25-18. Chairman Steele and Commissioner Staats will attend.

OUT OF COMPETITION TESTING:

NONE

FREEDOM of INFORMATION ACT Requests:

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE

CLOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING:

With no further public business to discuss, Chairman Steele made a motion to adjourn the public session. Motion was carried by Commissioner Berberian and seconded by Commissioner Liguori.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next Regular Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Next Rules Committee Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 10:00 AM

Next DSBF Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5, 2018.